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unique nonpalindromic single stranded 5' or 3' terminal sequence which facilitates specific hybridization of said nucleic acid components, and said oligonucleotide bridge(s) if provided, to assemble said nucleic acid components in a predetermined order; and

- (b) contacting said at least three nucleic acid components, and said oligonucleotide bridge(s) if provided, under conditions in which said 5' and 3' terminal sequences hybridize to generate a multicomponent nucleic acid construct.

*Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented in that section.*

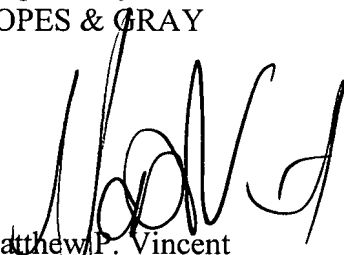
#### REMARKS

Applicants note with gratitude that the Examiner has withdrawn the previous rejections of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The current amendments are believed to address the Examiner's only pending rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and place the claims in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,  
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